

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed September 15, 2004 has been received and reviewed. Claims 21-28 and 41-52 are in the case. Claims 21-28 and 41-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Claims 27-28, 42-46, and 48-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

By this amendment, claim 22 has been cancelled to avoid repetition of claim elements and claim 53 has been added. For the reasons set forth below, claims 21, 23-28, and 41-53 are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Statement of Substance of Interview

Applicant expresses appreciation for personal interview granted by the examiner on April 7, 2005. In the interview, counsel for Applicant and the examiner discussed how the present invention, as recited in claims 21, 41, and 51, determines the context of a user's query, while the prior art teaches contexts relating to the information being searched. Counsel for Applicant articulated the advantages provided by this difference.

The examiner acknowledged the differences between Applicant's invention and the prior art. Counsel for Applicant and the examiner then discussed whether the language of claims 21, 41, and 51 captured these difference. The examiner stated that an amendment to the claims requiring "deriving by a processor a micro-context comprising a coherent group of words corresponding to the meaning for the text" would avoid Maynard and Sheard. Accordingly, counsel for the Applicant agreed to so amended the claims.

Rejection of Claims 21-28 and 41-52 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 21-28 and 41-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Maynard.

In the personal interview of April 7, 2005, the examiner stated that an amendment to the claims requiring "deriving by a processor a micro-context comprising a coherent group of words corresponding to the meaning for the text" would avoid Maynard. By this amendment, claims 21, 23-28, and 41-53 have been amended to incorporate this language. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that claims 21, 23-28, and 41-53 are in condition for immediate allowance.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 27-28, 42-46, and 48-50 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

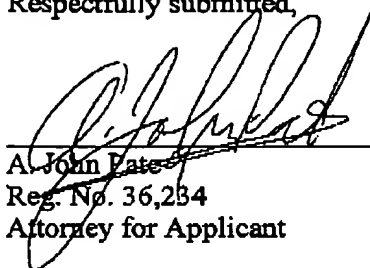
Claims 27-28, 42-46, and 48-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Maynard in view of Sheard et al.

In the personal interview of April 7, 2005, the examiner stated that an amendment to the claims requiring "deriving by a processor a micro-context comprising a coherent group of words corresponding to the meaning for the text" would avoid Maynard and Sheard. By this amendment, claims 27-28, 42-46, and 48-50 have been amended to incorporate this language. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that claims 27-28, 42-46, and 48-50 are in condition for immediate allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the event that the examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of any of these claims, which could be clarified in a telephone conference, the examiner is respectfully urged to initiate the same with the undersigned.

DATED this 10th day of May, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



A. John Pate
Reg. No. 36,234
Attorney for Applicant

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PATE PIERCE & BAIRD
550 Parkside Tower
215 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Telephone: (801) 530-0330
Facsimile: (801) 530-5955

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